



Oka' 2021 Sustainability Conference Speaker

Kevin Blackwood

Field Research Coordinator
Oka' the Water Institute at ECU
Adjunct Professor
East Central University



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Conference Presentation:

Tuesday, September 21st

Time: 2:05 PM

Kevin Blackwood is a research scientist specializing in the karst geosciences with additional research interests concerned with subterranean and aquatic ecology. He received his masters degree from East Central University where he has worked part-time as the Coordinator of Field Research for the Oka Institute and as an adjunct instructor since 2016. He also operates a small consulting company known as Arbuckle Karst Geoscience LLC which focuses on geohazard detection and karst mitigation. In 2020, he accepted a position with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to assist with various groundwater studies within the State of Oklahoma. He has been awarded three Summer Research subgrants (2018, 2019, & 2021) which have resulted in the publication of one manuscript, five abstracts, and four posters. Through supporting funds, he has involved more than 12 ECU students within the Summer Research Program to receive hands-on experience with field and laboratory research. He has extensive knowledge of the geology and hydrology of the Arbuckle Mountains where he has surveyed and explored more than 3,500 caves, most of which were previously unknown. His philanthropic activities involve the raising of more than \$120,000 to purchase land with caves to protect them as nature preserves.